

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic mail communication apparatus, comprising:
  - an electronic mail transmitter that transmits image data to a destination via a mail server;
  - an image data memory that stores the image data to be transmitted;
  - a memory that stores a capacity of the mail server; and
  - a controller that determines, before the electronic mail transmitter transmits the image data, whether an amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds a capacity of the mail server, and that generates error information, when the amount of the image data exceeds the capacity of the mail server.
2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
  - a speaker that generates an error indication sound when the amount of the image data is larger than the capacity of the mail server.
3. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
  - a display that displays a selectable option of deciding whether the image data will be transmitted or the image data transmission will be prevented when the amount of the image data exceeds the capacity of the mail server.
4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein when it is decided that the image data will be transmitted, the electronic mail transmitter transmits the image data within the capacity, and the controller sets a stop flag to indicate that a remainder of the image data will be transmitted later.
5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said capacity memory stores a plurality of sets of data, each of the sets of data includes a destination and the capacity of the mail server through which the image data is passed when the image data is transmitted to the destination, wherein said controller determines

whether the amount of the image data exceeds the capacity of the mail server corresponding to the destination, by reference to the said capacity memory.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a scanner that scans image data; and

a facsimile transmitter that transmits the scanned image data to a destination via a public telephone line.

7. An electronic mail communication apparatus, comprising:

an electronic mail transmitter that transmits image data to a destination via a transmission mail server and a reception mail server, the transmission mail server being connected to the electronic mail communication apparatus, the reception mail server being connected to the destination;

an image data memory that stores the image data to be transmitted;

a capacity memory that stores a capacity of one of the transmission and the reception mail servers, the capacity stored being a smaller of the capacity of the transmission mail server and the capacity of the reception mail server; and

a controller that determines, before the electronic mail transmitter transmits the image data, whether an amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds the stored capacity, and that generates error information, when the amount of the image data exceeds the stored capacity.

8. An electronic mail communication apparatus, comprising:

an electronic mail transmitter that transmits image data to a destination via a mail server;

an image data memory that stores the image data to be transmitted;

a capacity memory that stores a capacity of the mail server; and

a controller that determines, before the electronic mail transmitter transmits the image data, whether an amount of the image data exceeds the

capacity of the mail server and that processes the image data to reduce the amount of the image data when the amount of the image data exceeds the capacity of the mail server.

9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the controller processes the image data by converting a resolution of the image data to reduce the amount of the image data.

10. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the controller divides the image data to reduce the amount of the image data.

11. An electronic mail communication apparatus, comprising:  
an electronic mail transmitter that transmits image data to a destination via at least one of a plurality of mail servers;

an image data memory that stores the image data to be transmitted;  
a mail server table that stores a plurality of sets of data, one set of data for each of the plurality of mail servers, each of the sets of data including an address of a mail server and a capacity of the mail server; and

a controller that determines, before the electronic mail transmitter transmits the image data, whether an amount of the image data exceeds the capacity of the mail server having a predetermined address and that refers to said mail server table to replace the predetermined address of the mail server with another address of a connectable mail server of the plurality of mail servers having a higher capacity so that the image data can be transmitted via the mail server having a capacity larger than the amount of the image data, when the amount of the image data exceeds the capacity of the mail server having the predetermined address.

12. An electronic mail communication apparatus, comprising:  
a scanner that scans image data;  
an image data memory that stores the image data to be transmitted;

an electronic mail transmitter that transmits the image data to a destination via a mail server;

a capacity memory that stores a capacity of the mail server; and

a controller that determines, before the electronic mail transmitter transmits the image data, whether an amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds the capacity of the mail server and that generates error information when the amount of the image data exceeds the capacity of the mail server;

wherein said controller converts the image data into a format for transmission via the mail server when the amount of the image data is not larger than the limit capacity of the mail server.

13. An electronic mail communication method for transmitting image data to a destination via a mail server, comprising:

accepting image data;

determining, before transmission of the image data, whether an amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds a capacity of the mail server;

generating error information when the amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds the capacity of the mail server; and

transmitting the image data when the amount of the image data to be transmitted is not larger than the capacity of the mail server.

14. An electronic mail communication method for transmitting image data to a destination via a mail server, comprising:

accepting image data;

determining, before transmission of the image data, whether an amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds a capacity of the mail server;

processing the image data to reduce the amount of the image data when the amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds the capacity of the mail server; and

transmitting the image data when the transmission data amount of the image data is not larger than the capacity of the mail server.

15. An electronic mail communication method for transmitting image data to a destination via one of a plurality of mail servers, comprising:

accepting image data of an original;

determining, before transmission of the image data, whether an amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds a capacity of a predetermined mail server;

changing from the predetermined mail server to an other connectable mail server having a server capacity higher than the amount of the image data to be transmitted, when the amount of the image data to be transmitted exceeds the capacity of the predetermined mail server;

transmitting the image data when the amount of the image data to be transmitted is not larger than the limit capacity of the predetermined mail server; and

transmitting the image data through the connectable mail server having a server capacity higher than the amount of image data to be transmitted, when the amount of image data to be transmitted exceeds the capacity of the predetermined mail server.